

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, the specification has been amended for readability purposes.

As discussed in Applicants' previous response, *Pressato et al* does not disclose or suggest a crosslinking dextrin derivative containing at least one active ester group introduced in a dextrin chain, and at least one hydroxyl group, as now recited in claim 21. By comparison, *Pressato et al* is concerned with the use of derivatives of hyaluronic acid. Such derivatives are not the same as the claimed crosslinking dextrin derivative containing at least one active ester group introduced in a dextrin chain, and at least one hydroxyl group.

Submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration is documentary evidence which further shows the different characteristics exhibited by an exemplary icodextrin compound, in comparison with hyaluronic acid and ferric hyaluronate. See *Moberly et al*, "Pharmacokinetics of icodextrin in peritoneal dialysis patients," *Kidney International*, Vol. 62, Supplement 81 (2002), at page S-27, left column, lines 13-14; and *Thornton et al*, "Clinical evaluation of 0.5% ferric hyaluronate adhesion prevention gel for the reduction of adhesions following peritoneal cavity surgery: open-label pilot study," *Human Reproduction*, Vol. 13, No. 6 (1998), at page 1485, left column, lines 52-54.¹ Applicants note that such evidence further exemplifies the

¹ Copies of such documents are being provided with the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith.

differences between the claimed adhesion preventive material and the biomaterial of *Pressato et al.*

For at least the above reasons, and in view of Applicants' previously filed response, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

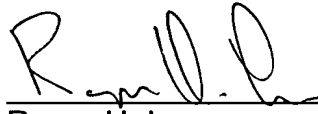
If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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